

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MADRID 00282 151719Z

43

ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4244

S E C R E T MADRID 0282

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SP

SUBJ: LETTER FROM AREILZA TO THE SECRETARY ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 9263

1. OUR READING OF AREILZA'S LETTER TO THE SECRETARY LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT A SUBSTANTIVE REPLY IS PROBABLY NOT NECESSARY. AREILZA'S REFERENCE TO THE SPANISH ARMED FORCES' INSISTENCE ON "A MINIMUM LEVEL OF SECURITY GUARANTEE" SEEMS TO BE USED HERE ESSENTIALLY AS A PHRASE OF ART TO UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE OF THEIR REQUESTS ON THE BASIC ISSUES OF THE FORM OF THE AGREEMENT (A TREATY), THE RELATIONSHIP TO NATO, AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. AT NO TIME SINCE OUR DISCUSSIONS RESUMED HERE SOME DAYS AGO HAS THE QUESTION OF A SECURITY GUARANTEE COME UP. THE NEW SPANISH GOVT CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THIS IS NOT IN THE CARDS.

2. THUS I RECOMMEND THAT THE RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER SIMPLY INDICATE THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO REACH A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT THAT CAN BE SIGNED IN MADRID ON THE 24TH OR 25TH OF JANUARY BUT THAT, IN ANY EVENT, THE SECRETARY LOOKS FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE MATTERS WITH AREILZA IN DETAIL.
STABLER

SECRET

NNN

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